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officers and crew shall be detained on board, under guard, until the completion of the discharge of cargo, while the vessel is at the dock and until the return of the vessel to the quarantine station. Immediately upon the completion of the discharge of cargo, the holds shall be fumigated with sulphur and the vessel shall be returned to the quarantine station and permitted to take on her crew before proceeding to sea.

20. This circular supersedes all previous department circulars relating to special quarantine regulations for fruit vessels.

GEORGE B. CORTELYOU, *Secretary.*

#### AUSTRALIA.

##### SYDNEY—Plague-prevention Work.

The following information is taken from bulletins received from the department of health of New South Wales:

During the month of February, 1910, 5,741 rats were destroyed. Of this number 1,773 were examined. No plague infection was found. The last case of human plague was reported May 29, 1909, and the last plague-infected rodent found June 15, 1909.

#### CHINA.

##### HONGKONG—Inspection of Vessels.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Foster reports, March 22:

Week ended March 19. Quarantine restrictions enforced by and against Hongkong remain as reported March 12.

##### INSPECTION AND DISINFECTION OF VESSELS.

###### *Week ended March 12.*

Vessels granted bills of health.....	7
Total members of crews.....	1,130
Total cabin passengers.....	1,034
Total steerage passengers.....	453
Members of crews bathed.....	573
Steerage passengers bathed.....	451
Pieces of baggage disinfected.....	1,037
Vessels disinfected to kill rats.....	1
Crews' quarters disinfected:	
With formaldehyde.....	7
With sulphur.....	1

##### SHANGHAI—Inspection of Vessels—Smallpox.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Ransom reports, March 17 and 25:

Week ended March 12. Supplemental bills of health issued to 2 steamships having an aggregate personnel of 676. One vessel with 39 in crew and 2 steerage passengers was inspected. The steerage passengers were bathed and their effects disinfected. Manifests were viséed for 2,912 pieces of freight.

The weekly report of the municipal health officer shows among foreigners 2 new cases of smallpox and among natives 7 deaths from smallpox.

Week ended March 19. One original and 2 supplemental bills of health granted to 3 steamships having an aggregate personnel of 552. Vessels inspected, 2; members of crews, 112; steerage passengers, 24. Manifests viséed for 2,155 pieces of freight. Baggage of steerage passengers disinfected, 34 pieces. One vessel was fumigated to destroy vermin.

The weekly report of the municipal health officer shows 8 deaths from smallpox among natives.